

THE  
AMOURS  
OF  
**Madame,**

AND THE  
Count *de* GUILCHE.

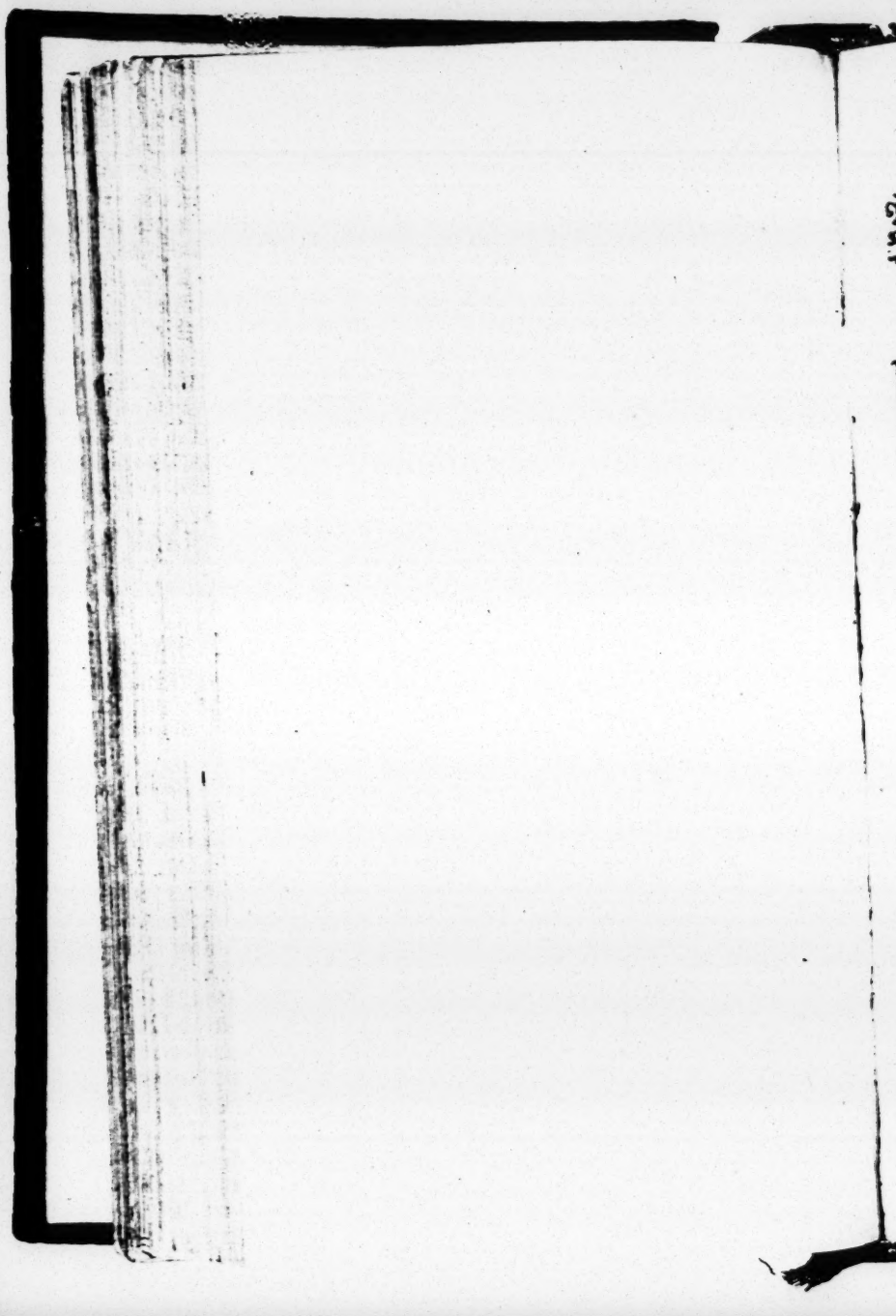
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Translated into *English*, by  
a **Person of Quality.**

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O B E D I E N C E,

Printed for B. C. Book-seller  
for the *Kingdom of Love*, at  
the Signe of the *Three-*  
*Cupids*, 1680.





THE  
Book-Seller  
TO THE  
Reader.

A Person of good  
Quality, and  
great Genero-  
sity, was pleased to  
give me this little  
A 3 Piece

## *The Book-Seller*

Piece of Gallantry of  
the *Count de Guiche*,  
and *Madame*, in a fair  
*Manuscript*.

I Read it over, and  
was extreamly well  
pleased with it; for, I  
remember, it had ob-  
tained a very great E-  
steem in the *French*:  
And I think, I may  
with Confidence af-  
firm, it hath suffered  
no-



*to the Reader.*

nothing by Transla-  
ting.

Which made me  
presently begg his  
Leave, to make it  
Publick, by Printing  
it; knowing very  
well, how much I  
should oblige the  
World by it.

And knowing ma-  
ny Persons would be  
Curious to see that

A 4 Story

## *The Book-Seller*

Story in *English*, that  
had made such a Bustle  
in the World.

For I have given my  
self for this little *Book*  
a *Luidore*, in *France*;  
w<sup>ch</sup>. is almost as much  
as an *English* *Guinney*.

I made what Hast  
I could, in the Print-  
ing it; knowi g, it  
would be much more  
difficult to do, at ano-  
ther

*to the Reader.*

ther Time: And so  
through Hast, I fear,  
I may have Commit-  
ted some Errors; as  
mistakes of Letters,  
and false Pointing,  
and the like.

Which Faults, the  
*Author* is not to be  
Charged with; for if  
there be any such, I  
am content to own  
them: For the *Au-*  
A 5 *thor*

## *The Book-Seller*

*thor* had not Leisure to Look over the Sheets, having Business, and being distant from the Press.

But I hope, the Faults are not very considerable; and I humbly beg Pardon for Them: More especially, I beg Pardon of my Generous Benefactor, for the  
Con-

to the Reader.

Confidence I take, in  
this *Address* before his  
*Book*.

But my Zeal to  
tell the World his  
Goodness and Kind-  
ness to me, put me up-  
on this Task; which  
I am resolved to put  
an End to, lest I should  
offend him by this  
Confession: For his  
Modesty is so great,  
that

*The Book-Seller, &c.*  
that I dare not say  
what he really Merits.  
For his Worth stands  
far above the Praise  
of,

*Dear Friends,*

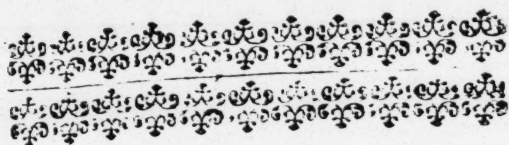
*The Humblest of Your  
Servants,*

*B. C.*

*Obedience, in the  
Kingdom of Love,*

*Jan. 14. 16<sup>79</sup>  
80*

THE



THE  
AMOURS  
OF  
MADAM,  
AND THE  
Count de GUICHE.



HE Confinement of *Var-*  
des, and Banishment of  
the Count de  
*Guiche*, and  
Countess of *Soissons*, leave no  
B doubt,



doubt, but that the Passions of Love, Hatred, Jealousie, & Aversion, produced strange Effects on divers Persons, of the greatest Quality in the Kingdom. The Thing was variously talked of at *Court*; and every one made Constructions according to Caprice, or Humour; grounding their Conjectures upon the Suddenness of some unexpected Emergents; framing Stories and Intrigues, and keeping a Chat about Imaginary Adventures and Familiarities; which had no other Foundation, but the Fancy of the Reporters. Notwithstanding, many made it their Business to persuade others, that they knew

knew the Truth of the whole  
 Affair: And to appear better  
 informed than the rest, in-  
 vented Plausible Tales, and  
 Chymical Circumstances ;  
 which, by joyning Impudence  
 to Lying, they delivered in so  
 confident a manner, that it  
 was impossible to hinder Men  
 from giving some Credit to  
 what they said. But, What  
 colour of Truth was there,  
 that Private Actions should be  
 known to the World, when  
 it was so much the Interest of  
 the Concerned, to hide them ;  
 being such Mysteries, as the  
 stillest Recess of Solitude was  
 scarcely to be trusted with, and  
 which could not come to light,  
 without the bitterest Regret

to the Parties ? And indeed, had not Love, which began the Matter first, discovered it likewise afterwards, we had had but a very imperfect Account of this *History*.

*Manicampe* being extreamly troubled at the Absence of his Friend, the Count *De Guiche*, (to divert his Pensive Thoughts, and alleviate Melancholly ) endeavoured to make the strictest League of Friendship he could, with a Court-Lady : And though he had to do with one willing enough to Engage ; yet she thought on nothing so much, as her own Security : And therefore, put him to many  
hard

hard Tryals, before she would condescend. She was, indeed, Cruel; and none but *Manicampe*, and he in Love too, but would have been discouraged in the Pursuit. One Day, when he Courted her with the tenderest Words, that Passion could put into his Mouth: Well, *Manicampe*, (says she) I Esteem you; and would have said more, that *I Love you*, were I assured, that you are altogether Mine: But, How d'ye think, I can believe that, (continued she) unless you allow me some Share in the Matters of your greatest Confidence. You have had all your Life long, so intimate a Friendship with

the Count *De Guiche*, that you cannot be ignorant of his Adventures; and especially, of those that occasioned his Banishment. I protest, I am Curious, and would willingly know the Truth of that Intrigue: But had the Secret come from you without Intreaty, I should have valued it more; and you should have lost nothing by the Discovery.

That was enough, to banish all Scruples out of the Heart of *Manicampe*: He had too much Love for his Mistress, to continue True to his Friend. And being then in a Condition to give her full Satisfaction, ( for he had in his

his Pockets, the Coppies of all those Letters that related to their Amours ) he resolved to satisfy the Ladies Curiosity, who professed so great a Desire to be informed : And therefore, pausing a little, that he might Recollect himself, he thus began his Relation.

**T**He Marriage of *Madam* increasing the Joy of the *Court*, nothing was to be seen there, but new wayes of Gallantry and Diversion : And *Madam* ( as you know ) being a Princess, young, and accomplished ; all that saw her, thought of nothing but inventing Pleasures agreeable to a Person of her Quality and

B 4                      Merit.

Merit. The *King*, who had his Eyes open, and saw her rare Qualities as well as any, gave her a thousand Marks of his Kindness: And, according to all appearance, She, and the Countess of *Soissons*, received the greatest Part of the Gallantries, which he addressed to the Ladies. The Count *De Guiche*, and Marquess *De Vardes*, being esteemed of the *King*, participated often of his Favors, and were the greatest Confidants of his Pleasures. Then it was, that a Life so Pleasant, and Charming, filled these two unhappy Men with so much Love and Ambition, that they lost their Reason, and prepared for them-



themselves those Misfortunes,  
that are never likely to end,  
but with their Lives.

The *Count* saw *Madam* every Day ; and perceived, that the Pleasure which he took, in seeing her continually, increased ; without dreaming what it might cost him afterward : But the Precipice was very slippery ; and it was not long before he found, that he had gone on further than he was willing. *Madam*, on the other Hand, not knowing the Thoughts of the *Count*, looked upon him in such a manner, that he had no Reason to despair : She hath alwayes a certain languishing Air ; and

B 5            when.

when she speaks, (as she is every way Lovely) the very Words seem to command the Heart: So that, the most indifferent Thing she sayes, hath a kind of Attractive Sweetness; and is a Powerfull Charm for any Man, so sensible as the *Count*: Her Beauty, and Quality, kindled in his Soul so many sparkling Hopes, that he looked upon the Peril of his Enterprize, as a Thing that would add to his Glory. In fine, Giving himself wholly over to Love, for some Months, I observed him dumpish, and out of Humour: And having one Day asked him, What the Matter was with him?  
 He

He answered me, It was not yet time to tell it; but that he would answer me precisely, when he should be either more or less Happy, than at that time he was: And, in conclusion, told me, That perhaps, he was in Love.

At my Return from a Journey, that had required my Absence for Three Weeks, I found the *Count* at my House, where he staid for me; but so Blith and Jolly, and with so much State in his Looks, that by his Countenance, I guessed at the greatest Part of his Affairs. Ha! my dear Friend, (said he, at first Meeting) 'tis Three Dayes, since

I have been ready to dye of Impatience to see you. And then approaching my Ears: My Joy, and good Fortune, was not compleat, since you were not here, to share in the Secret. My Servants being Retired, the *Count* himself shut my Chamber Door; and praying me not to interrupt him, he spake to me in this manner.

Well! though I have not named the Person whom I Love; yet by the way I speak to you, you may easily conceive, that it can be no other than *Mahmud*. Nor do I believe, that this Confession doth in the least, surprize you.

you. I know, if I had discovered my Thoughts to you, in the Beginning of my Passion, you would have said a Thousand Things, to dissuade me: But it would have been to as little Purpose, as what my own Reason suggested; which represented to me Things infinitely dangerous, both to my Fortune, and Life, without shaking in the least, my Designs. But, not to dissimble, I was too far gone in Love, before I perceived, that I ought to have Guarded against it; and never endeavoured to check my Passion, till I found my self altogether unable to resist its Violence. I was not ignorant,

rant, I should be Jealous, as soon as I was in Love. The *King* put me into such terrible Fits of Melancholly, that many times he made my very Soul despair: He shewed himself so sollicitous and observant of *Madam*, that all believed he Loved her; and that she her self, was perswaded of it. This has continued Two or Three Months; and assuredly, they have been to me so many Ages of Misery. I dayly observed the *King's* Courtship to *Madam*; and with heavy Regret, perceived that she received it with Joy. I grew thereupon Lean and Withered, look't Bleak and Pale; And then  
it

it was, that you asked me,  
 what I ailed: But my kil-  
 ling Wound was, the *King*  
 ask't me, if I was Sick; and  
*Madam* often played upon  
 me. In fine, I had almost lost  
 my Confidence, and was like  
 to prove a Sacrifice to my  
 Silence and Rival, (for as  
 yet I had spoken no other-  
 ways to *Madam*, but by sad  
 and dejected Looks) when I  
 received a Glimpse of Com-  
 fort, which I did not at all  
 expect. The *King*, settled in  
 his Purposes, continued his  
 Visits dayly to *Madam*: And  
 whether his Carriage till  
 then, was only out of Poli-  
 cy, or that he began to have  
 some Scruples; on a sudden,  
 he



he turned his Eyes from his Sister-in-Law, and fixed them on *Mademoiselle de La Valiere*. The Procedure of that Prince, was so Conspicuous and Great, that a few Dayes made his Passion to be taken Notice of by all Men. He kept still tho, to all the ways of Civility ; but had intangled himself in other Respects, than what the World believ'd he had for *Madam*. And that Princess, who thought she had been the only Object of his Desires, was mightily amazed, to find him inclining to her *Maid of Honour* : But her Amazement quickly turned into Resentment and Indignation ; which, being increased

creased by the Loss of so fair  
 a Conquest, did so disturb  
 her, that she could not con-  
 tain from shewing some  
 of it to Mademoiselle *Monta-*  
*let*, and my Self. One Day,  
 when the *King* Entertain'd  
 his Fair One at some distance  
 from her: I know not (said  
 she, very softly) whether they  
 intended me so long only for  
 a Cloak: But I am really a-  
 shamed, to see Men engage  
 so unworthily; and to find  
 so much Height, fall so Low.  
 At the End of these Words,  
 having turned her self to-  
 wards me: Madam, (said I)  
 Love equals all Things; and  
 when that has once taken Pos-  
 session of a Heart, it banishes  
 all

all Fears and Scruples ; and the Inequality which you condemn, is not at all regarded amongst Lovers. The *King* can Love none in his Dominions, but those that are below him : There are but few Princesses, he can apply himself to ; and he must (like his Predecessors) make his Courtship to the Ladies, if he intend to have Mistresses.

Methinks, ( said she, very briskly ) that having begun to Love like a *King*, he should not now stoop so Low : And this convinces me of what I should never have thought of him ; that, setting aside his Crown,

Crown, he hath many Gentlemen in his Kingdom, who have more Merit, more Courage, and Constancy, than himself. I talk freely before you, *Count*, (said she) because I take you to have the Soul of a Gallant Man; and I have a very great Confidence in *Montalet*: But still, I must confess, I wish the *King* had bent his Inclinations another way. Why should it trouble your Highness? (replied *Montalet*) He hath the same Respects still for you. He never goes to see *La Valiere*, but after he hath visited you: And if you love Diversion, he never takes any, but you may, if you please, make One.

In

In short, *Madam*, I never thought you ought to have been concerned at the Matter: And since the Last Progress to *Fontainebleau*, and Two Conferences that he hath had with her, I have had good ground to suspect, what to Day I see. This it is, in plain Terms, that vexes me at the Adventure, wherein they only made me the Mask; and where-with your Highness may make your self Merry, if you will look upon it with Indifferency.

Then *Madam* repenting herself, that she had spoken so much to me, though she never took notice of it, till her Passion  
was

was allay'd ; You have Reason, said she : I will seem to know nothing of the Matter ; I will not disturb the *King's* Pleasures : But will act my Part so well, that he shall never perceive, his Carriage hath given me the least Discontent. But, to wave this Discourse, What has been the matter with you, for this pretty while ? (continued she, addressing her self to me) What is the Reason, you have had such a Sadness in your Looks, and almost Death painted in your Face ? Speak, said she, (seeing me stand immoveable, and breathing nothing but Sighs) What hath thus altered you ? Come, be free,

free, I am your Friend; I will keep your Council, and so shall *Montalet* too: For you look like a Man newly Arrived from t'other World. Ha! *Madam*, What is it you would know, answered I? And could not speak one Word more: Nor did I imagine, how I should have Evaded so dangerous a Question, if *Monsieur* had not come with several Ladies, and went to Play. This was the only Occasion, wherein his Presence rejoiced me: For, I could have wished him far enough, at other Times.

Next Day, *Madam* came to Play with the *Queen*; where  
the



the *King* was also: Going out,  
 I took *Montalet* by the Hand;  
 who whispered to me, that  
 she was ordered to tell me,  
 That I was not yet come off  
 so; but that I must discover,  
 what one desired to know  
 from me. For my own Part,  
 (continued she) I am no  
 longer Curious; for, I think,  
 I know it well enough; and if  
 you will take my Advice, ne-  
 ver tell all the Truth. Alas!  
 (said I) What would you  
 have me to do with that cru-  
 el Truth, if I must not Re-  
 veal it? Is it not better to  
 Dye, obeying her; than de-  
 stroy my self by a Silence,  
 which is worse than a Thou-  
 sand Deaths? Be not so Foo-  
 lish,

lish, (answered she) I pity your Condition: Farewell.

I had only so much Time, as to wring her by the Hand, without making any Reply; for we were just at the Boot of the Coach, into which she went. I thought, that she testifying some Compassion on my Pain, I might put a Confidence in her; or, at least, have some Ease in her Conversation.

Two Dayes after, I followed the *King* to *Madam's* Apartment; where, after he had made his Complement, he went to *La Valier's*, followed by

by *Vardes Liscara*, and some others: For my part, I staid behind; and had the Opportunity to Entertain *Montalet*, whil't the *Countess of Scissons* was in Discourse with *Madam*. I did all I could, to gain her; and told her the most secret Thoughts of my Heart: But all I could get out of her, was, That she was willing to be my Friend; but that I must take care, I asked nothing of her, that was contrary to the intentions of her Mistress: That she was sorry, to see me steer so dangerous a Course; and gave me a great many good Hints to that Purpose; on which I have often reflected, for the

ordering of my Conduct: But I could not draw from her, whether *Madam's* Eyes were as good as hers, in discovering my Passion. And being about to have Conjured her, to tell me something more, we were interrupted by the *Countess of Soissons*, who was just taking her Leave of *Madam*. As soon as she was gone, *Madam* called to me: Well, well, *Count de Guiche*, (said she) will you speak to Day? I know not, at present, what to say, (answered I) but know, I shall alwayes kindly obey your *Highness* Commands. I should have been willing, to have kept my Follies to my self, out

out of the Profound Respect  
 I have for your *Highness*;  
 and because I can make no  
 Discovery, without Confusi-  
 on. I doubted mightily (re-  
 plied she) there was some-  
 thing more in it, than I could  
 think of; but your Unwil-  
 lingness to tell me, has dou-  
 bled my Desire to know it:  
 However, once more be as-  
 sured, that you shall hazard  
 nothing, by satisfying me. I  
 wanted that Assurance, (said  
 I) to bring me to a full Reso-  
 lution: But pray, *Madam*, if  
 you please, think on your  
 Promise. It is Six Months  
 (continued I) since I have  
 loved a Lady of so near a Re-  
 lation to your *Highness*, as  
 C 2 might

might make me fear, you would take her part against me; and blame me, for raising my Thoughts so High: But, Who is able to resist her Charms, *Madam*? She is of a middle and graceful Stature: Her Complexion, without the Help of Art, is a White and Red, surpassing all that can be imitated: The Features of her Face are Regular, and Delicate beyond Parallel: Her Mouth is Little and Plump, encompassed with *Vermilion* Lips: Her Teeth well Set, and of the Colour of Pearl: The Beauty of her Eyes, is not to be expressed; they are Blew, Sparkling, and Languishing. To  
match

match These; her Hair is of a Light Ash-Colour, the Fairest in the World: Her Neck, Hands, and Arms, are of a Whiteness, surpassing all others. As Young as she is, she hath a Vast and Penetrating Wit; worthy of a Thousand Kingdoms: Her Thoughts are Sublime, and Great: And the Concurrence of so many Noble Qualities, have produced so admirable a Piece of Perfection, that She seems rather an Angel, than a Mortal Creature.

Think not, *Madam*, that I speak of her, in the Strain of a Lover; She is such as I have described her: And could I but let you see her.



Air, and the Charms of her Humour, you would agree with me, that in the whole World, there is not a more Adorable Object. For a long time, I only Admired her: But, at last, I found I had lost my Liberty: And the Knot was too hard Tyed, for me to think to Loosen it. I had no more Reason left me, than to hide the Fire that Tormented me. Yet, not so neither; but that when I was in the Ladies Company, I was alwayes besides my self: And that, if she had taken Notice of my Countenance, and little Affiduities, she might easily have observed the Disorder her Presence

fence put me into. The Necessity of my long Silence, and the Greatness of my Rival, rendred me so Melancholly, that I lost both Appetite and Rest; and was brought into that Decay, and languishing Condition, which within these Two Months, hath so Disfigured me. I lay upon the Rack of Pensiveness; and could not have so long remained, if Fortune had not then pitied me, and eased me of one of my Evils. That Rival, with whom I dare dispute nothing, hath bent his Inclinations another way, and delivered me from the Trouble, which I suffered by his former Gallantries:

So that, finding my self less  
Unhappy, I lived a little more  
Contented.

*Madam* perceiving that I  
had made an end : And, is  
that all, *Count*? (said she)  
Must we not then know the  
Name of the Fair-One? I  
see no Body at Court, whom  
the Picture you have made,  
do Resemble : Nor can I ima-  
gine the Rival, who hath  
created you so much Trou-  
ble. What, *Madame*? (said  
I) Would you have me de-  
clare, what I have not as  
yet, told the Person whom I  
Love? Stay, at least, until  
I have made my Declaration;  
and then I promise, your  
*High-*

*Highness* shall know her Name.  
 Well, (said she) I am satisfied : But I advise you, as soon as you can, by the Means you think fittest, to let her understand your Thoughts ; for fear some Body else, not so Respectful as your self, may prove a Spye. Hitherto you have Loved, like one in a *Romance* : But, I think, in this our Age, they have found out a shorter Way of accomplishing their Amours, than they had heretofore. They say, That those who have so much Consideration, have but an indifferent Love. When your Passion is so great as you think it is, without doubt, you'll tell it : Not

but that such a Discretion as yours, is of Value ; but all Things are to be contained within their just Limits. Ha, *Madam* ! (answered I) When you know what a Distance there is between me, and her whom I Adore, you will never blame me, for being so Rash.

I was going on, when *Mademoiselle Barbezierre* came in, and told *Madam*, That the *King* was coming back that way : Whil'st those that went before him entred, *Montalet*, who did nothing but pass to and fro the Chamber, whil'st we were together ; asked me, If I had come  
off

off well? I told her, I thought I had: And that no Body could miscarry, who had so good a Councillor as her fair Self. We had no more Leisure to Talk; for the *King*, having spoken to *Madam*, that she should be in Readiness to go next Day to Dinner to *Ver-sailles*, came presently out: And for my part, I stole away in the Crowd. No sooner was I come Home, but I gave order, no Visitants, except your self, should be admitted. I reflected a long time, on the Discourse, which I had had with *Madam*: And after many contrary Resolutions, I determined, at last, to write her this Letter.

THE

THE  
 Count *de* GUILCHE  
 TO  
 MADAM.

**I** *T* is You, Madam,  
 that I Love; and  
 the Description I  
 gave you Yesterday, is  
 of Your Self; which  
 you could not but know.  
 If



If you think this Con-  
 fession too Bold, you  
 must blame your own  
 Curiosity: And remem-  
 ber, that I ought not  
 to disobey the Fairest  
 Person living. The  
 Fear of displeasing you,  
 made me declare it ;  
 and Silence must needs  
 burst, at the Commands  
 of her whom I Ad-  
 dres. Pardon me, Di-  
 vine

vine Princess! if I  
 tell you, That my Soul  
 is now Transported a-  
 bove the fear of Dan-  
 gers, (though it be in  
 your Power, to chastise  
 my Boldness with the  
 severest of Punish-  
 ments) and that now  
 I know no Passion, but  
 that of Joy, when I  
 make you Judge of the  
 Infinitness of my Love,  
 by

( 39 )

by the Greatness of  
your Merit, and by  
this of my Rashness.

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Having read this Letter,  
and found it suitable to my  
Intentions, I Sealed it up as  
neatly as I could: And next  
day, being at *Versailles*, where  
the *Court* was but Thinn, I  
took my Opportunity to come  
to *Madam*; and to tell her  
sofly, so as not to be over-  
heard: Yester-day, *Madam*,  
I spoke to the Lady, and in-  
tended your *Highness* a full  
Account of all that passed be-  
tween

tween us: But fore-seeing, that I could not easily do it in this Place, I have committed to a Note, what you desire to know ; which you shall have, before you go from hence. I dare recommend it to you, *Madam*; which is my Life and Fortune, if you shew it. Do you think (said she) I have not spoken enough, to give you assurance? She said no more ; but a Quarter of an Hour after, rose up to go see the Fountains, and Water-works ; and I took her by the Hand, to lead her as she walkt. I was in so great a disturbance for a while, that my Heart went Pitty-pat ; yet as I had taken

ken my Resolution, I flipt the Letter gently into her Hand; and perceived the letting go mine, under pretext of taking out her Handkerchief, she conveyed it softly into her Pocket, and leaned again upon my Arm. All the rest of the Day, I spoke not a word to her but aloud, and before Company.

I returned to *Paris*, with the Briskness of a Man discharged of a heavy Burden: But was no sooner got to Bed, but that I was afflicted with new Troubles; which representing themselves to my Thoughts under various and odd Shapes, tormented me  
with

with restless Cares, whilst I expected to know the Success of my Billet.

Next day I was in a doubt, whether I should attend the *King* to the *Palais-Royal*; when you came and told me, There was a great Collation to be at *Monsieurs*, where the Gallants and Ladies were to appear in their Dress: That made me resolve to put on the Richest Habit, that ever I had wore; and therein go and receive the good Fortune, which Destiny had prepared for me.

About the Evening, the *King* came to *Monsieur's*, and brought

brought Madamoifelle *de La Valliere* with him. There were also the Countess of *Soissons*, Madam *de Montespan*, (highly Carressed by *Monsieur*) and many other Ladies of the Court. *Madam* came a little after, so set out with Jewels, and Rich in Natural Beauty, that she Eclipsed all the Rest. I advanced a little forward, that I might be in her way as she passed ; and behold her with Eyes, that bespoke so much Submission and Awe, that seeing me in that Posture, she gave me a little (but so obliging) a Nodd with her Head, that for half an Hour, I did not come to my self again. Great Joys,  
often-



oftentimes, Destroyes those Pleasures they should Create.

They Danced, and Played; and as often as I could, I presented my self to *Madam's* View, without approaching her. I had done so all the time of the Collation, if *Montalet* had not come to me; who seeing through my Eyes into the Bottom of my Heart, bid me have a Care of my self, and mind what I did: Telling me withal, That I must not fail to be with *Madam* the next Evening. But what ever Question I asked her, she would neither speak, nor hear me any more.

You

You may be confident, I did not fail to come to the *Palais-Royal*, at the exact time. *Montalet* came to receive me in a little Entry; from whence she conducted me to her Chamber, where we discoursed a little together. I was Conjuring her to tell me, if she knew how I should be Received, when *Madam* herself came in, in a Morning-Gown, but Becoming and Magnificent. At first, I made her a low Reverence; and after I had given her a nearer Salute, she commanded me to take a Stool, and sit down by her: And *Montalet*, at the same time, having withdrawn a little from us, she spoke

spoke to me in this manner.

*Count*, your Unhappiness has sufficiently reveng'd me on you: And indeed, it is so Great, that I was willing to give you Notice, that you might prepare your self against the Effects thereof. I read your Letter, and was going to Burn it, when *Monsieur* snatch't it out of my Hand, and read it over from End to End. If I had not made use of all the Power, which I have over him, and what Arts I could devise, to pacifie his Anger, he had by this time, made you the Example of his Fury. I need  
not

not tell you, what his Wrath made him say: It will only concern you, to think of some Means, to get out of the Danger you are in.

*Madam*, (said I, throwing my self at her Feet) I will never fly from the Mortal Peril that threatens me: And if I have in the least, displeased my Adorable *Princess*, I will freely give my Life to expiate the Fault. But if you are not on my Enemies Side, you shall see me prepared for all Accidents, with such a Constancy, that you shall perceive, I am not altogether unworthy to serve you.

Your

Your Party is too strong in my Heart (replied she, commanding me to Rise, and giving me her Hand) obliging Lover, that I should turn on their Side, who would do you a Prejudice. Fear nothing of that I said, concerning your Letter: I had a care, that no Body but my self should see it; only I was willing at first, to give you the Alaram. Believe me, I cannot betray you, without being Treacherous to the tenderest Sentiments of my own Heart. I have taken Notice of your Passion and Respect; and so long as you demean your self as you ought, I shall sacrifice many things

things to your Content, and  
never deliver you up to a-  
ny.

Is it possible (said I) *Ma-*  
*dam*, (casting my self again  
at her Feet) that your *Highb-*  
*ness* should with so much  
Goodness (notwithstanding  
all the Disproportion that is  
between us) humble your  
self to so low a Thing as me.  
Till now, I never had Rea-  
son to reproach Nature and  
Fortune, that they did not  
qualifie me for a Person of  
your Rank and Merit. But  
if an Ardent and Loyal Zeal,  
with a Submission without  
Reserve, can do any thing  
for your Satisfaction, your  
D *Highb-*

*Highness* may reckon on one, who is willing to be put to what Tryals you please.

*Count* (said she) I shall make use of those, if I need them: But, assure your self, that if I can do any thing to advance your Fortune, my Pains and Credit shall never disappoint you. Ha, *Madam!* (cried I) Ambitious Thoughts make no part of my Passion. Well then (replyed she) if something must be done to give you Content, you have the Liberty to believe, that one Loves you.

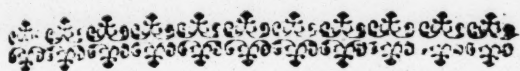
*Montalet* being then gone out of the Chamber, I yielded



ed to the Transport of Joy :  
 And being on my Knees, laid  
 hold of one of *Madam's* Hands ;  
 upon which I stamp't my  
 my Mouth with such an Ex-  
 talie, as quite deprived me  
 of the Pleasure of my good  
 Fortune. I was for half an  
 Hour in that Condition, with-  
 out the Power of Speech, or  
 Strength to raise my self up :  
 And, just as I began to come  
 to my self again, *Montalet*  
 came, and told *Madam*, that  
 it was time to return to her  
 Chamber ; because *Monsieur*  
 was coming. I was not dis-  
 pleased at the News ; for I  
 found my self in so feeble a  
 Condition that I must have  
 acquitted my self very ill of

a longer Conversation. She gave me no time to make Apologies ; but rising from her Seat: Come, *Montalet*, (said she) take here your Man, and have a care of him ; for I fear, he is not well. At these Words, she went out of the Chamber ; and I durst not follow: But praying *Montalet* to give me Ink and Paper, I wrote the following Note.

---



**I** Had Resolution e-  
 nough to suffer my  
 Disgrace, but wan-  
 ted Strength to pur-  
 sue my good Fortune:  
 My Weakness was an  
 Effect of Respect and  
 Transportation. Par-  
 don me, Fair Princess;  
 Excessive Joys disturb

D 3      tco

too much at first Access, and they were too many at one time, for one Man. If you are willing, that I should believe what you have said, give me one Quarter of an Hour, and take my Acknowledgments.

---

I gave this Note to *Montalet*, who promised me faithfully, to deliver it; and after-

terwards, let me out the same way I came.

I protest to you, that the Pleasure of my Adventure was so baffled by the Grief of that Disorder, that it was utterly lost for that time; and my Thoughts run continually Divisions; until that Three Dayes after, I had Notice given me, to repair to the same Place, and at the same Hour. I came there with more than ordinary Joy, because *Monsieur* was Love-employed at the *Louvre*; and thereby, gave me less Fear of Disturbance, The Night was serene, and still; and appeared to me, a thousand

D 4. times

times Brighter than the Day.  
 So soon as I was Introduced  
 by *Montalet*, I had no time  
 to talk with her; for *Ma-*  
*dam* immediately entred the  
 Room.

Well, *Count* (said she) are  
 you recovered? Ha, *Madam!*  
 (answered I) the Evils oc-  
 casioned by Joy, never last  
 long. Had your *Highness*  
 given me a little time, I  
 should quickly have come to  
 my self again. The Truth is  
 (said she) I thought to have  
 seen you Dye at my Feet,  
 you seemed so Weak and  
 Languishing. *Madam* (said  
 I) I was never designed for  
 so Glorious an End: But I  
 am

am confident, the Greatest Princes of the World, would envy my present Condition, which I prefer far above theirs. You have said enough (said she) and I wish, you may make it appear so. But (continued she, smiling) have a care those Thoughts render you not the same Person you were t'other day; For really, you left me in extream Pain. You have (said I) *Madam*, given me time enough, to prepare for this happy Minute: But I thought to have had the Honour, to have seen you sooner. That is not so easie a Matter, as you may imagine, (said she): And if you knew the Cauti-



on I was fain to use, and all *Montalet's* Care too, you would think your self beholding to Both of us. But tell me in good earnest, Was you very impatient to see me again? You have greater Interest in the Question, than perhaps you imagine; for I am really, one of your best Friends: And having said so, Blushing, she gave me her Hand.

Then it was, that I strained what I could, to make her sensible of the Greatness of my Passion; and had the Pleasure to perswade her of the Truth of it. We Enjoyed, for the space of Four Hours,

Hours, one of the Tenderest and Closest Conversations in the World; and I seemed to be Inspired with new Life, in her Company. Her lovely Eyes, the Sweetness of her Conversation, and her Agreeable and Charming way of Carriage, so powerfully animated me to Entertain her Pleasantly, that she appeared satisfied with my Endeavors; and was pleased to make it known by a Thousand Carresses, and as many Endearing Expressions.

To be short; After mutual Protestations, that it was impossible, two Lovers could be more Content with each other,

'other, than we were, we projected Measures for my future Conduct. She commanded me, to make a stricter Friendship with *Vardes*, than I had till then done; and to go twice or thrice a Week, to the Lodgings of the Countess of *Solifons* . where there should be a Rendezvous of a few Choice Persons, for Diversion: And where we should have the Conveniency, that was not to be found at the *Palais-Royal*, for the Management of our Affairs, without the help of any, but *Montalet*; in whom she wholly Confided.

All Things thus ordered, I took my Leave: And *Montalet*,

*talet*, who was in a Closet hard by, Conducted me to the Back-Stairs; where I bid her *Good-Night*, and thanked her for her Care.

Since that time, I have been often with *Vardes*, and at the Countess of *Scisson's* Lodgings; where I am sure to find *Madam*, when she is not at the *Louvre*, or *Palais-Royal*. We Four, have Contracted a most delightful Society; and upon the Foot of True Friendship, have ingaged in an inseparable Union of Interest.

I will not scruple to tell you, That we have laid our Heads together, to work up-  
on

on the *King*, that he may forsake *La Valiere*; and place his Affection on some other, of a more tractable Temper: for *La Valiere* is Haughty, and Inaccessible. For this End, we have thought it expedient, to make the *Queen* Jealous, by a Letter we wrote Eight Dayes ago; which I Translated into *Spanish*. I Counterfeited another Hand: And four or five Dayes since, being in the *Queen's* Bed-Chamber, slipt the Letter into her Bed. *La Monline* found it; and instead of delivering it to her Majesty, carryed it to the *King*. The Letter was Conceived in these Words.

T O



TO THE  
QUEEN.

**T**HE King runs  
head-long, into  
an irregular Pas-  
sion; which All but  
Your Majesty, know:  
and Mademoiselle de  
La

*La Valiere, is the Object of his Love, and Application. This Advice, Your Faithful Servants do in Duty, give to Your Majesty: You only can tell, if You can Love the King in the Embraces of another; or if You will put a Stop to a Thing, which can bring You no Glory in the End.*

*There*



There is some-what Rare in this Adventure: For the *King* spoke of it to *Vardes*, shewed him the Letter, and enjoyn'd him with all Privacy, to endeavour to find out the Author. I am not startled at that: For *Vardes* himself, wrote the Original in *French*: He told us last Night, That he had done what he could, to turn the *King's* Suspicions upon the *Prince*; tho he could not believe him capable of any such thing: But that the *King* himself, had at length fixed upon *Madamoiselle*, whom he believed ill natur'd, and *Madam de Navaille*; judging it an Effect

fect of their imprudent Vertue.

*Vardes* was not at all concern'd, to dispossess him of his Jealousie ; but makes, as if he were industrious in discovering the Author. Nor are our Ladies wanting on their Parts : For sometimes at *Madam's* Lodgings, and sometimes at the Countess of *Soisson's*, they shew the *King* one of the Compleatest Beauties in *France* : But the Letter hath spoilt all ; and made the *King* only more Fond of *La Valiere*, than ever. We see it daily ; for *Vardes* is not out of Play : He is also in Love with the Countess

tefs of *Soiffons*. And though the Matter be not come fo far as a Confidence ; yet according as we order Things, we know well enough one anothers Affairs.

In the mean time, I am punctual in making my Court to *Monsieur* : I have even made it my bufinefs, to infnuate into his Love-Intrigues, that I might have more opportunity to fhew him fome Complaisance. But I have obferved, that he loves to be alone among the Ladies ; and I am glad he is of that Humour. I have offered him my Services with Madam *D'Olome* ; whom twice or thrice,

thrice, he acknowledged to be Fair and Lovely. I have seen him almost resolved on the matter; but he boggles at every thing; can resolve on nothing: And, to tell you freely, I don't think, he loves to come to a Conclusion. Yet all this hath not discouraged me. I have discoursed him about the Thing, more than Ten times: For I am much concerned, to have him drawn-in. But (which is as Good) Madam *Montespan* hath debauched him from me: And as he is easily kept in Play, my Cares as to that Particular, are over.

Tell me, dear Friend; Am  
not

not I Happy ? And, Can any in *France* surpass me, in good Fortune ?

I confess (answered I) your Luck is so Great, that it makes me tremble ; for now, I see it encompassed on all Hands, with so many Precipices, that it will be a Miracle, if you come off with Flying Colours. It concerns you, to look to your Hits, and to be wary of two Extravangancies, into which so Glorious a State may hurry you : And let your Conduct be never so Circumspect, Fortune must not forsake you, if you escape the Dangers of so great Undertakings. Your  
Love

Love hath cut you out work enough, without engaging to cross the Pleasure of a *Prince*; from whom you dayly receive Favours: And I counsel you, as your loving Friend, not to concern your self in the Designs that your Friends would make, upon his Pretensions.

Were you in Love (replyed the *Count*) you would not be so Scrupulous: And besides, I must tell you, That Jealousie is never easily Cured, whilst the Object is present. I cannot Love the *King*, when I think upon what he hath made me suffer.

*Madam*

*Madam* is of my Opinion ;  
 and it is my Interest, to keep  
 her so. Besides, *Vardes*, and  
 the Countess of *Soissons*, have  
 convinced us ; that could we  
 but give him a Mistress that  
 were one of our Friends, we  
 might by that means, dispose  
 of most of the Favours, which  
 the *King* should confer: We  
 would become so useful to  
 him, in the Matters of his  
 Pleasures, that he could not  
 be without us: And that  
 would be a way to introduce  
 us into the Affairs of great-  
 est Importance. Were you  
 as well acquainted as I am,  
 with the Charming Variety  
 of Thoughts, which Love  
 and Ambition produce in ones  
 Soul,



Soul, you would not be so stiff in your Reasonings; and we might see you perhaps, as pliable as others. When it is so, you will not be so severe to your Friends: 'Till then, Fare-wel.

With these Words he departed, and left me alone, in great Anxiety and Trouble; with sufficient Matter to reflect, on what we had been just before Discoursing.

Three Months passed, without any Disturbance that the *Count* seemed to meet with. The Truth is, he was so taken up with his Love, and other Intrigues, that I never  
saw

saw him, but in passing. He was wholly given up to his new Wayes of Diversion and Pleasures ; was at a prodigious and vast Expence in Apparel ; insensibly with-drew himself from the Conversation of his Friends : And, in a word, did so many Things, that he quickly did so much, as to make the Cause of those Alterations to be suspected.

Some Body having told me, what the common Talk was, I failed not to give him Notice of it ; and to counsel him, to have a special Care of himself. But, as Prosperity lulls Vigilance asleep,

E

and

and darkens Reason ; He assured me, that he had prevented all those Things ; and that they who talked so, must needs have grounded their Whimseys on Imaginary Foundations : That, till that very Minute he was speaking to me, he had not made one Step, without due Circumspection. But he so neglected what I had told him, or was otherwise so unfortunâte, that *Monsieur* took Umbrage ; and employed Spyes, to get him clearer Information.

The Court swarms with base sneaking *Sycophants* ; who, to gain Credit with a Prince, by Tatling and Tales,  
dis-

disquiet his Repose : And spare not (that they may perswade him of their Fidelity) to tell him the most ungrateful and afflicting Things. Such was the Fate of *Monsieur* ; who found some, that turn'd his Jealousies into certain Truths ; and so discomposed the Mind of that Young *Prince*, as yet a Novice in such Matters : That forgetting his Birth, his Courage, and Power, and all the decent Wayes of Revenging the first Attaques of his Grief ; He went with Tears in his Eyes to the *King*, to complain of the Insolence of the *Court* : And having represented, with Aggravating Circumstances,

what he had learnt of his Proceedings, demanded Justice of him; and that he would banish from *Madam*, all those that could have a Hand in facilitating such Commerces.

The *King* was moved at the plain and natural way, that his Brother spoke, and declared his Jealousie to him; and thereupon, gave him some Documents. For the Future (said he to him) rather stifle such Displeasures, than suffer them to appear: But, if the Rashness of the *Count* is become Publick, there was no Reserve to be used; you had Guards to Punish

Punish upon the Spot, those that should forget the Respect that was due to you. Persons of your Quality, are not to be offended, and the Offenders go free.. He further added; That, without inquiring into the Matter, whether the *Count* were Guilty, or not, he ought to be sent away so far, that it should be hard to know what was become of him: That for the rest, it was his part gently to Remove from *Madam*, all those that might be suspected by him: That he was not to take Umbrage upon every slight Occasion: That, above all Things, it behoved him to be very cau-

tious, in handling that nice Point with *Madam*, who was Young : & for all the Quaintness and Vivacity of her Understanding, might possibly be ignorant, that those little Freedoms, which are Harmless in Reality, are not so in outward Appearance : And that, being told so seasonably, and with discretion, she would certainly abstain from giving way to the like, for the Future. In fine, The *King* omitted nothing, that might mitigate his Brother's Resentment, and ease his Mind upon so ticklish an Occasion.

The



The same day that *Monsieur* was in this Heat, he forgot what the *King* had told him; and dismissed *Montalet* and *Barbezieres*, to the great Grief of *Madam*; who could not without Tears, suffer the Removal of two Maids, for whom she had so great a Kindness.

In the mean-while, the *King* sent for the *Mareschal de Grammonts*; and so soon as he saw him, bidding all with-draw, told him: *Monsieur le Mareschal*, your Son is an Extravagant Man, and not easily to be Reclaimed. If I had not an Esteem for you, I would leave him to

my Brother's Indignation, to whom he hath failed in Respect. Send him to the Wars in *Poland*, until further Orders: And that the Cause of his Departure may not be known, let him come, and ask Leave of me to Morrow, both for himself, and his Brother *Lovigney*, to make that Journey.

The *Mareschal* thanked the *King* for his Goodness, without offering to Excuse his Son; and assured him, he would put his Orders in Execution.

The *Count* was in Bed (having come Home late from the

the *Hotel de Soissons*) when his Father entred his Chamber; from whence the Servants with-drew; well knowing, that the *Mareschal* used not to visit his Son, but upon very urgent Business.

Well! *Comte de Guiche* (said the Old Man, in a drolling way) you are an Excellent Man for Love-Adventures: You mind them so much, that some, I hope, will be as careful of your Wife, as you are of other Mens. You have succeeded very well (continued he); art a Jolly *Cavalier*; and, above all, exceeding Prudent. You have Acquitted your self ve-

ry well at *Court* : For the *King* has just now told me, That being sensible of your Merit, he hath a Designe to Prefer you. And for that End, would have you prepare to take a Journey into *Poland* ; to see, if that *King* will be pleased to accept of you, as a *Volunteer*, into his Service. A Man of Brains, such as you are, is not altogether unworthy of such an Imployment : You take the Right Course, to Establish your Fortune : For, I well perceive, by Vanity and Pleasure, you think to become Great.

He

He told him many other Things, without any Interruption from the *Count*; who indeed was not able, being so stunned with the News of a Journey, which he believed, could not be avoided.

His Father afterwards, having in a more serious Manner, acquainted him with the *King's* Pleasure, left him to take his Rest; if any there was for a Man, that was about to be pluckt from himself; and who, in his own Imagination, already Antedated the Crosses he was going to suffer.

The

The first Thing the *Count* did, was to come, and tell me of his Disgrace: And I could give him but little Comfort in so Remediless an Evil, except to flatter him with the Hopes of Returning again. Afterwards, he went to *Vardes*, to whom having told the Necessity of his Departure very speedily; he Engaged him to deliver his Letters to *Madam*, and send him her Answers. *Vardes* promised in that, and in all other Things, to serve him Faithfully. I found him at his House, where he appeared fuller of Resolution, and imparted to me, the Agreement he had made with *Vardes*;

not thinking fit to change him, both because it was too well known, that I was his Friend ; and that *Vardes* had more Acquaintance than I, at *Madam's* Court.

But He and I being afterwards by our selves : Have you not (said I) considered, what may be the Cause of this your Disgrace ?

Since last Night (answered he) I have Twenty times reflected on my past Actions ; and can but think of two Things, that could have betrayed me.

About



About a Fort-night ago, you were at a Treat, where we Drank hard: You may call to mind, that it was there said, That *Madam* had Lovely Eyes: I spoke to that, with a litt'e too much Vehemency; and said, That the *Cavalier* who was Master of them, might certainly brag he was Happy: And I uttered these Words, with a Delight and Affectation, that would have been very Indiscreet amongst sober People. And, Did that possibly pass without being taken Notice of? For both of us were a little warmed: Yet I remember, you trode upon my Foot.

The

The other Thing I suspect, was more dangerous. *Madam* and *I* observed, that *Monsieur* never almost failed to plunge his whole Hand into the *Holy-water-Pot*, in the *Chappel* of the *Palais-Royal*, and to dry it with his Handkerchief, after he had Be-sprinck'ed his Face: That Action hinted to us a way, how we might serve him a Trick, to Revenge our selves of his ill Humour; for he had disappointed us of a Walk the Day before. And therefore, we took our Opportunity one Morning, when he was gone to *Saint Clou*, with a Designe not to return till Night. The same Morning,

I

I went to *Mass*, at the *Palais-Royal*: And remaining alone with *Madam* and *Montalet* (as if we had something to say together), after all the People were gone, we put in Execution, what we resolved to do.

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And

---



**A**ND this was the  
 Sum of what *Manicampe* told the  
*Lady* ; which coming from  
 one, who for a long time,  
 had been of the *Count's*  
 Councils, deserves more  
 Credit, than the many  
 Rumours, that have been  
 spread abroad by some  
*Court-Whisperers* ; who  
 are very rarely Guilty of  
 telling

telling Truth (though generally they are better informed in all sorts of Affairs, than others; or, at least, pretend so to be): But for the most part, Report Things as they are induced there-unto, either by Love or Hatred.

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***FINIS.***

